

1315

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England's Magna Carta is  
signed by King John.

King John Seals Magna Carta  
English barons extract privileges  
from the Crown at Runnymede.  
The extension of royal control under Henry II  
nurtured baronial resistance to the Crown,  
since the ancient right of the magnates to be  
consulted in matters affecting the community,  
of the realm (communitas regis), was gradually  
eroded without the provision of any constitutional  
means for the redress of grievances. In  
the reign of King John a crisis of confidence

inspired by the loss of Normandy in 1204 and the failure to recover it at the Battle of Bouvines in 1214, emboldened many barons, who had been heavily taxed to pay for the king's continental disaster, openly to rebel. John was forced to deal with them at Runnymede, and to accept their conditions in the great charter of liberties, Magna Carta. The charter concerned itself with feudal privilege of the wealthy knightly class; it was later misinterpretations which made it appear as a great national charter of the English people. It lacked sanctions, and the performance of its terms relied on the king's will. It carried great constitutional implications (the royal govt must rest on consent and that king could be constrained by law).

1215 (NOV) Lateran IV

#12  
Ecclesiastical  
Council

Pope Innocent III

Sessions held between Nov 11 & 30.

Ordered annual Confession and  
Communion; defined and made  
first official use of term "transubstantiation";  
adopted measures to counteract CATARI  
and Albigensians; approved 70 canons.

1215

1912 Dates J-BK

Among the Anglo-Saxons  
Religious ceremonies were forbidden  
to be practised at trials by  
Ordeal

and by end of 13th century  
its practice had nearly ceased.

Fourth Council of Lateran (Rome)  
Held by Pope Innocent III, established  
the Inquisition, an ecclesiastical tribunal  
by which persons, accused of heresy  
were tried and, if penitent,  
reconciled to the Church; if obstinate  
they were handed over to secular  
power.

The Commandment of the annual paschal  
communion was framed by this Council.

12/5

Fourth Lateran Council  
Defined Transubstantiation  
that bread and wine in the  
Eucharist are really  
transformed into the body  
and blood of Christ.

1215

Magna Carta, signed  
at Runnymede in England,  
limits the rights of kings.



June 19, 1215

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King John signed  
the Magna Carta in the  
meadow side of Runnymede,  
in Surrey, England

C1215

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DOMINICAN Order  
Catholic religious order of  
"friars preachers"  
established Toulouse c1215.  
rule approved, Bologna  
1220-1221

1215

1912 Dates' J-BK

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London was occupied by  
the confederated lords.